

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1594

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits as part of the TRICARE program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2005

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire (for himself and Mr. MEEHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits as part of the TRICARE program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Chiropractic Health
5 Parity for Military Retirees and Dependents Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CARE FOR RETIREES, DE-**
7 **PENDENTS, AND SURVIVORS.**

8 (a) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than July 31, 2005,
9 the Secretary of Defense shall complete development of a

1 plan to provide chiropractic health care services and bene-
2 fits, as a permanent part of the TRICARE program, for
3 covered beneficiaries.

4 (b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall require
5 that a contract entered into under section 1097 of title
6 10, United States Code, for the delivery of health care
7 services shall—

8 (1) include the delivery of chiropractic services;

9 (2) require that chiropractic services may be
10 provided only by a doctor of chiropractic; and

11 (3) provide that a covered beneficiary may se-
12 lect and have direct access to a doctor of chiro-
13 practice without referral by another health practi-
14 tioner.

15 (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—The plan developed
16 under subsection (a) shall provide for implementation of
17 the plan to begin no later than December 31, 2005.

18 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) The term “chiropractic services”—

20 (A) includes the diagnosis (including by di-
21 agnostic X-ray tests), correction, and manage-
22 ment of vertebral subluxations or neuro-
23 musculoskeletal conditions, and such other
24 chiropractic services determined appropriate by
25 the Secretary; and

1 (B) does not include the use of drugs or
2 surgery.

3 (2) The term “covered beneficiary” has the
4 meaning provided by section 1072(5) of title 10,
5 United States Code.

6 (3) The term “doctor of chiropractic” includes
7 only a doctor of chiropractic who is licensed as such
8 by the State in which chiropractic services are fur-
9 nished.

10 (4) The term “TRICARE program” has the
11 meaning provided by section 1072(7) of title 10,
12 United States Code.

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